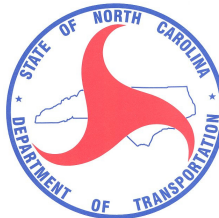


ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2009



**Scuppernong Mitigation Site
Washington County
TIP No. R-2548C**



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SUMMARY

The Scuppernong Mitigation Site is located in Washington County. The site was planted in March 2004 and was designed as mitigation for wetland impacts associated with roadway project R-2548C.

The mitigation encompasses approximately 1.26 acres total of wetland restoration which included 0.20 acres for filling activities and 1.06 acres for clearing activities. The 0.20 acres of restoration was required by the COE permit (Action ID No. 199703132) and the CAMA permit (No. 166-00), which included monitoring for this portion of the site. The 1.06 acres of restoration was required by the COE permit (Action ID No. 199703132) but did not include monitoring. The restoration effort involved the removal of the roadbed to existing wetland elevation. The site was then planted and will be monitored to ensure that it meets the vegetation success criteria. No hydrologic monitoring is required for this project; however, vegetation monitoring is required annually.

The 2009 vegetation monitoring of the site revealed that the planted species are surviving. The 1.06 acres that was inadvertently mowed was replanted in February 2009. White top stakes were installed along the perimeter of the site to ensure that the mowing does not continue to occur.

NCDOT proposes to discontinue vegetation monitoring at the Scuppernong Mitigation Site.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The Scuppernong Mitigation Site is located at the existing US 64 roadbed in Washington County at the intersection of US 64 Bypass and Benson Road (Figure 1). The site consists of approximately 1.26 acres of mitigation for wetland impacts associated with project R-2548C.

1.2 Purpose

In order for a mitigation site to be considered successful, a site must meet vegetation success criteria. This report details the vegetation monitoring in 2009 at the Scuppernong Mitigation Site. Hydrologic monitoring was not required for the site.

1.3 Project History

March 2004	Site Planted
November 2008	Vegetation Monitoring (1 year)
February 2009	Mowed Area Replanted
August 2009	Vegetation Monitoring (2 year)

2.0 VEGETATION: SCUPPERNONG MITIGATION SITE (YEAR 2 MONITORING)

2.1 Success Criteria

Success Criteria states that the permittee shall provide an annual update on the mitigation site at the annual NCDOT wetland mitigation monitoring meeting. This annual update will consist at a minimum of photographs provided during the agency monitoring report meeting and a brief report on the success of the wetland restoration area.

2.2 Description of Species

The following wetland species were planted in the Wetland Restoration Area:

Platanus occidentalis, Sycamore

Quercus phellos, Willow Oak

Betula nigra, River Birch

Quercus michauxii, Swamp Chestnut Oak

2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring

The wetland restoration area is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status. The planted species along with various wetland species are surviving in this area. The portion of the site that was inadvertently mowed was replanted in February 2009. White top stakes were installed along the perimeter of the site to ensure that the mowing does not continue to occur.

Site Notes: Planted tree species noted surviving onsite included sycamore, willow oak, river birch, and swamp chestnut oak. There were 4 to 12 inches of standing water onsite at the time of monitoring. This had contributed to some mortality of the planted seedlings but a stem count of planted seedlings was evaluated with an average of 459 trees per acre surviving. Other species noted include: *Juncus* sp., woolgrass, red maple, cattail, sweetgum, baccharis, stinkweed, and other various wetland species.

2.4 Conclusions

There were approximately 1.26 acres of wetland restoration planted on site. There were no plots established on the site. By visual observation, the Scuppernong Mitigation Site shows that the planted species are surviving.

3.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

NCDOT proposes to discontinue vegetation monitoring at the Scuppernong Mitigation Site.

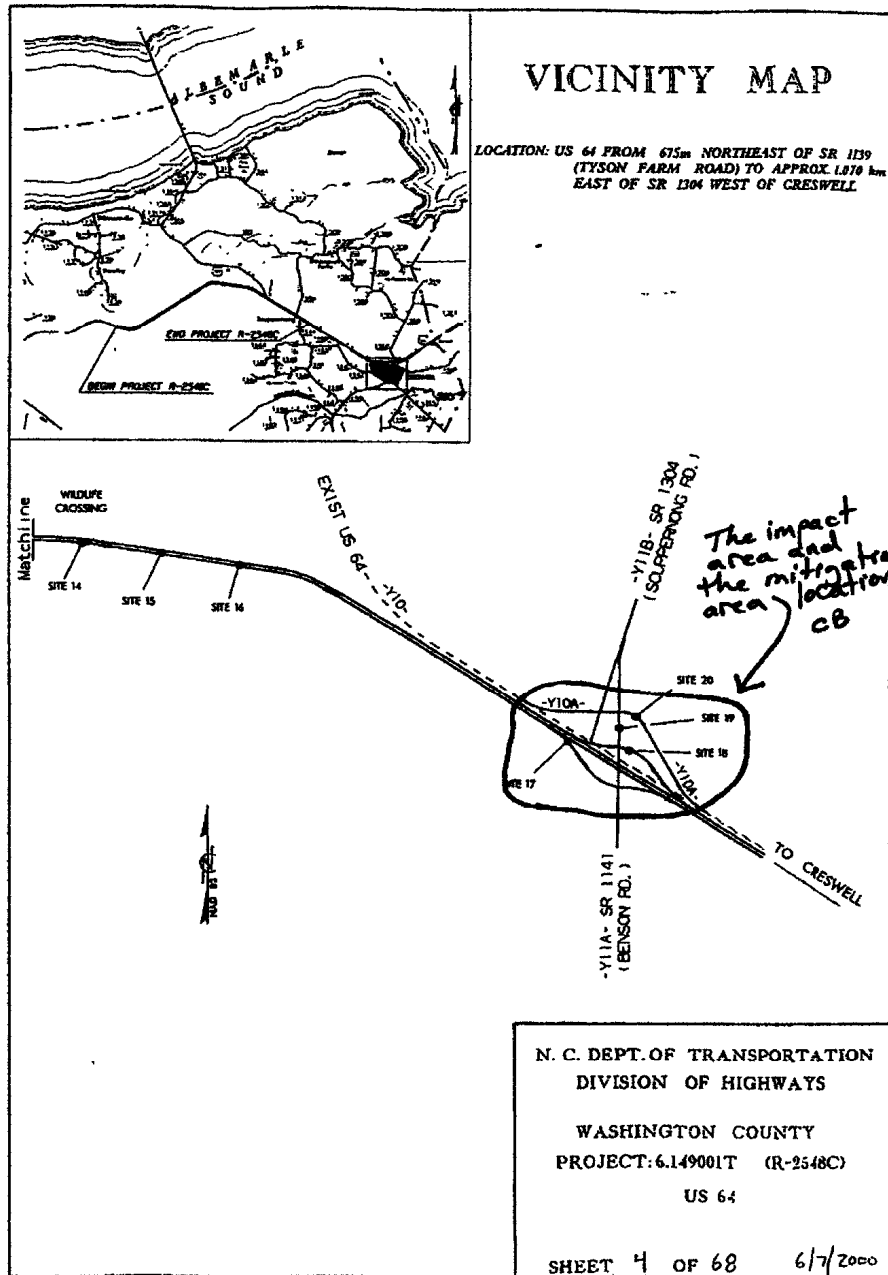


Figure 1 - Site Location Map

APPENDIX A

SITE PHOTOS

Scuppernong Mitigation Site



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4

P = PHOTO POINT LOCATIONS

